

SPECIAL PARK USE FEE SCHEDULE

Fort Sumter National Monument
Charles Pinckney National Historic Park



I. FEES

A. Types of Fees - Other Than Filming and Photography Fees

1. Administrative Cost

This fee is related to the cost of processing the permit application, which includes reviewing the application, permit preparation, and development of the administrative record. Some requested activities may require considerable additional administrative activities such as environmental, cultural, and other compliance and approval. In such cases, if additional costs are incurred they will be added as a recoverable cost.

Application Fee: Standard, Non-refundable \$50.00

2. Location Cost

Two types of fees are associated with location costs:

The **land/facility use fee** is a one-time charge for use of a specific area. These charges are determined by a cost comparison with county park facilities and the amenities that are offered.

The **performance bond** acts as a deposit. It represents the permittee's guarantee of compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit. The performance bond is returned to the permittee once the National Park Service (NPS) determines that the area of use has been left in acceptable condition. If a determination is made that the area of use is not left in acceptable condition (for example excessive litter or damage to resources and/or facilities), then the performance bond is retained by the NPS as reimbursement for the cost of recovery. Retention of the performance bond does not preclude the issuance of a Bill for Collection for any recovery costs that exceed the performance bond amount. Performance bonds are accepted in cash, money order or cashier's check only.

Park Area:	Land/Facility Use Fee:	Performance Bond:	
		(0-50 people)	(51-100 people)
Fort Moultrie Auditorium	\$250.00	\$300.00	\$400.00
Fort Moultrie Back Lot	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$400.00
Fort Moultrie Dock	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$600.00
Fort Moultrie Observation Deck	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$400.00
Fort Moultrie Perimeter Field Area	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$300.00
Liberty Square Front Lawn	\$500.00	\$800.00	\$1000.00
Liberty Square Promenade	\$300.00	\$600.00	\$800.00
Liberty Square Shade Shelters	\$400.00	\$600.00	\$800.00
Charles Pinckney Comfort Station	\$250.00	\$300.00	\$400.00
Charles Pinckney Grounds	\$250.00	\$300.00	\$400.00

3. Recoverable Cost

These fees include all costs associated with the management of a permit, such as costs for personnel, boat operations, and supplies and materials. Management fees generally represent the cost for management of a permitted activity during the activity including, but not limited to, the salary for an employee assigned to the permitted event and the cost of expendable NPS supplies or materials used by the permittee during the event.

Management Fee:

Personnel costs are calculated on an hourly basis and include benefit costs:

Permanent Employees	Hourly Rate	
	Regular	Overtime
GS 5	22.95	34.43
GS 7	28.44	42.67
GS 9	34.79	52.19
GS 11	42.08	63.13
WG 10	38.29	57.43

Amortized Boat Operations Cost:

\$155.00/hr

The amortized boat cost is an hourly fee that covers all NPS boat operation expenses that are incurred during use by a permittee including operator wages and fuel. This cost is included in the management fee, but is only applied when the NPS provides transportation to Fort Sumter outside of regularly scheduled boat operations. If NPS transportation is provided to Fort Sumter during regularly scheduled boat operations, then no additional boat cost is added to the management fee.

The regular park boat schedule is currently as follows (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):

Six Boats: March 15 – August 20 & Labor Day Weekend (Fri-Sun)

Morning departure = 9:20 am

Evening return = 5:45 pm (approx)

Five Boats: March 1-14; August 21-28; Sep. 1 – Nov. 30; December 26-31

Morning departure = 8:30 am

Evening return = 4:30 pm (approx)

Three Boats: Jan 2 – February 29, December 1-24

Morning departure = 10:00 am

Evening return = 4:30 pm (approx)

No Tour Boats on January 1, Thanksgiving Day and December 25. Park Closed.

B. Fee Exemptions

- May be appropriate when -
1. furnishing the service without charge is an appropriate courtesy to a foreign government or international organization; or comparable fees are set on a reciprocal basis with a foreign country; or
 2. the permittee is a state, local, or federal government agency or a tribal government; or
 3. the Superintendent determines that the use will promote the mission of the National Park Service or promote the public safety, health or welfare.
- Is appropriate when -
1. a charge is prohibited by legislation or executive order; or
 2. the requested use involves exercise of a right pertaining to water, property, minerals, access, Native American religious practices, or the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution including freedom of assembly, speech, religion, and press.

Exemptions for state and local governments or non-profit groups are not automatic. The permittee must be engaged in an activity designed for the public safety, health or welfare for an exemption to be granted.

General Example: A Red Cross blood drive may be exempted, but a Red Cross banquet for it's workers to celebrate the successful drive would not.

II. SITE SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS

A. Fort Moultrie and Fort Sumter

Due to the grounds in and around Fort Moultrie and Fort Sumter being designated by the NPS as "commemorative," regulations severely restrict the types of activity allowed. The majority of these grounds are reserved strictly for military operations and commemorative events. However, at Fort Moultrie only, and within the perimeter field area only, small weddings and other events are now authorized. The perimeter field area consists of the land outside of the sidewalk that surrounds Fort Moultrie. Additional information specific to weddings may be found in section IV.

Particular attention must be paid to the logistics of the use of any of the available Fort Moultrie locations. Sullivan's Island is a bedroom community. Park friends and neighbors have an expectation of peaceful surroundings, and the park strives for a continuation of that expectation. Additionally, some areas are void of electrical access, lighting and other amenities.

Increases in visitation and continuing deterioration due to natural elements contribute to safety concerns related to the Fort's stability as well as resource impairment. Therefore, Fort Sumter is available, in terms of permitted activities, for military reenlistments, some filming and photography, and commemorative events only.

B. Liberty Square

Large events occurring at Liberty Square in downtown Charleston may require approval from the City of Charleston's Special Events Committee. The NPS will not accept a permit application for a large scale activity to occur at Liberty Square until the City of Charleston has approved the event in question. Contact information is as follows:

City of Charleston
Office of Special Events – (843) 724-7327
Police Department – (843) 577-7434
Traffic and Transportation Department – (843) 724-7368
South Carolina Aquarium – (843) 579-8656

Fort Sumter Tours is the ferry boat company currently contracted with the National Park Service to provide transportation to Fort Sumter for all park visitors. Any person or group authorized for activity at Fort Sumter is encouraged to utilize Fort Sumter Tours as the primary means of transportation to Fort Sumter for permitted activities. All permittees are subject to the transportation fees established by Fort Sumter Tours unless otherwise negotiated. If the established ferry boat schedule does not meet the needs of the permittee, special arrangements can be made for the NPS to provide transportation based upon the information in section I.A.3. – Recoverable Costs. Permittees may also use a private vessel for transportation to Fort Sumter. Regardless of which means of transportation is utilized, the specific information regarding transportation to Fort Sumter must be included in the permit application. Additional information regarding Fort Sumter Tours' transportation fees and ferry boat schedules may be obtained directly from Fort Sumter Tours. Contact information is as follows:

Fort Sumter Tours (800) 789-3678 or (843) 722-2628

C. Charles Pinckney National Historic Site

The Charles Pinckney NHS location has been a popular choice for weddings and other events, and is now also available for receptions. Things to keep in mind when considering use of this location are limited electrical availability, limited sheltered space, and the expectation of a peaceful environment by park friends and neighbors.

III. FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

A. Permit Requirements

A permit **is not** required when:

1. the filming or photography is for personal use and it occurs within normal visitation areas and hours.
2. the filming or photography relates to news media coverage.

A permit **is** required when:

1. the filming or photography is commercial in nature and/or includes the use of models, props, or sets, which also includes obtaining a release from members of the general public.
2. the filming or photography requires entry into areas restricted from normal visitation.
3. the filming or photography requires access to park locations outside of normal visitation hours.

B. Other Considerations

- The NPS will not sign a location release.
- The NPS can request a credit line.
- The NPS will not censor the content of a filming project, nor require a finished product. However, the NPS may review a story board or other material offered by the applicant to determine:
 1. whether a credit line is appropriate; or
 2. whether active NPS assistance and authorization of use of the arrowhead symbol is

appropriate.

- The following criteria may justify the denial/rejection of a permit:
 1. resource impairment or damage,
 2. disruption of visitor use or normal park operations,
 3. requested use is within closed areas,
 4. management requirements,
 5. inability to obtain insurance and/or bonding,
 6. illegal portrayals (defacing monuments), and
 7. failure to agree to pay assessed cost recovery.
- Fees associated with filming and photography permits are determined in the same manner as fees for other permits, with the exception of land/facility use fees. ***Filming and Photography land/facility (also called location) fees are established in accordance with P.L. 106-206 and are listed below. The Filming and Photography location fees provided are applicable to all NPS sites.***
- Transportation to Fort Sumter NM for all filming and photography permits must be coordinated as described in section II.B.

Motion Picture/Video Filming

1-2 people (camera & tripod only)	\$0.00 per day
1-10 people	\$150.00 per day
11-30 people	\$250.00 per day
31-49 people	\$500.00 per day
50 or more people	\$750.00 per day

Commercial Still Photography

1-10 people	\$50.00 per day
11-30 people	\$150.00 per day
31 or more people	\$250.00 per day

IV. WEDDINGS

The areas available for wedding activities are:

- Fort Moultrie Back Lot.
- Fort Moultrie Dock.
- Fort Moultrie Observation Deck.
- Fort Moultrie Perimeter Field Area.
- Liberty Square Front Lawn.
- Liberty Square Promenade.
- Liberty Square Shade Shelters
- Charles Pinckney Comfort Station.
- Charles Pinckney Grounds.

The National Park Service is not in the event planning business and cannot provide any equipment, supplies, or materials that might be needed for weddings or any other events. As stated in section II above, particular attention must be paid to the logistics of using any available NPS location. The potentially restrictive conditions that exist in these areas include:

- Limited or no available electricity.
- Limited or no available lighting.
- Limited or no available restroom facilities
- Limited or no available shelter in case of inclement weather.
- All areas remain open to visitors during regular park hours.
- Community expectations of peaceful surroundings require limited music and/or noise.

V. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Authorities

Application approval is subject to NPS policy established in Director's Order 53. Additionally, the general authority to regulate park uses and issue permits as a procedure for permitting activities within parks is found in the NPS Organic Act (16 U.S.C. § 1). Park use is further regulated in 36 CFR Part 1.6. The

authority to charge a fee and to recover costs is found in 31 U.S.C. § 9701, which outlines the requirements for charging fees for "special services." The authority to charge filming and photography location fees is found in 16 U.S.C. 460I-6d.

B. Review Process

All special park use permit applications are reviewed on an individual basis. The NPS requires receipt of the application at least four working days prior to the date of the event. Generally, a response to an application is provided within these 4 business days; however, this is dependent upon the volume of applications received and the amount of detail provided in the application.

C. Non-Profit Organizations and Government Agencies

Permitted events sponsored by non-profit and government groups are subject to the same fee calculations as any other permitted event, with the exception of the location cost fee.

D. Additional Requirements

Additional information, such as a detailed set-up diagram, vendor list, contact list, and schedule, will be required by the NPS for large scale events, or for events occurring in environmentally sensitive areas. Liability insurance will also be required for such events.

E. Contacts

All permit applications are subject to the approval of park Superintendent Bob Dodson. All permit applications and information may be obtained by contacting Mark Davis at (843) 883-3123 x25.

F. Checklist

The following checklist may be utilized to ensure adherence to the procedures established in this fee schedule.

1. Request permit application package.
2. Submit application form and application fee. (Application will NOT be processed without receipt of the application fee.)
3. Submit diagram of event layout if required.
4. Upon notification of approval, sign the permit and return the signed pages to park headquarters.
5. Submit liability insurance certificate if indicated on the permit
6. Submit additional fees if indicated on the permit.